St. Matt's Midweek Update – 31st October 2025

How are you?



I can't believe that tomorrow is November!

It's that time of year when there are lots of things to plan for, and I feel like I have too many things to hold in my head at once! I have lists for everything at the moment.

When we are very busy, or there are big things coming up in our lives, the danger is that we try to look and plan too far ahead, and then get overwhelmed because we don't know how things will turn out, or we can't put all the pieces together in advance.

Something that Dedo said in her talk on Sunday really stuck with me, and I think it is helpful whatever we are facing today. She said that we only need to ask God for what we need today, and He will give us the grace and the provision for that day.

That is a really good thing to remember whether we are facing big change in our lives, whether we are just in a very busy season, or whether we are going through a season of grief or illness. Ask God for what you need today and try not to worry about tomorrow. He is the God who provides and who knows what we need before we even ask. But He wants us to trust Him for our future and not to keep taking it back by worrying and trying to plan for every outcome.

"Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus." Philippians 4:6-7

Notices



This Sunday (2nd November) is the first Sunday of the month, so we have our 8am communion service and then our family service at 10am. Mike will be speaking to us about light from Philippians 2:12-18.

Next Sunday (9th November) is **Remembrance Sunday**. Our 10am service in the morning will finish with an act of Remembrance at 11am. We will have groups for our children and young people and Brian will be speaking to us.

We also have our **memorial service at 5pm** for anyone who has been bereaved. Please feel free to invite people to come to this quiet reflective service. Jane T will be speaking and there will be a chance for people to light a candle for their loved ones.





Come and join us for a fun night of quizzing! Our quiz night is just two weeks away, on Friday 14th November, 7.30pm - 10pm in church.

At the moment we only have one team signed up, so get talking to your friends, family, neighbours, colleagues and make up a team to come and join in! You can enter as a team of up to 8 people, and the quiz is for anyone aged 14+. Tickets are £5 per person with proceeds going to Tearfund.

We will provide some soft drinks so bring any other drinks you would like and some snacks for the evening.

You can buy your tickets here https://stmatts.churchsuite.com/events/osgcitdd
If you are planning to have a team but haven't got it finalised yet, please can you let me know? Thanks!



Our next prayer meeting is on **Sunday 16th November 8.30am - 9.30am** in the church centre, over a simple breakfast. Please come and join us if you can.

Our Christmas Craft Event for ladies is back this year!

Friday 5th December 7.30pm - 9.45pm.

Come and make some Christmas crafts and decorations, with mulled wine and Christmas nibbles to enjoy as well! This is another great event to bring friends to and it's a lovely start to the Christmas season.

Tickets are £12 per person (ladies aged 14+) and you can buy them here https://stmatts.churchsuite.com/events/jxkedsv3





As you know, St. Matt's Church joined the Inclusive Church Network earlier this year, to show that we welcome everyone, and want our church to be a place where all people can worship God freely. Last month, The House of Bishops of The Church of England made

a series of key decisions on the future direction of the Living in Love and Faith process, which explores questions of relationships, sexuality and marriage. These decisions are detailed here https://www.churchofengland.org/media/press-releases/update-living-love-and-faith-october-2025 and basically mean no further progress can be made without formal synodical and legislative processes being completed.

Inclusive Church have produced an Open Letter for people to sign in response to this recent news, calling for the full inclusion, affirmation and involvement of LGBTQ+ people in the Church of England. Brian and I have both individually signed this letter.

If you would like to read it and think about signing it, you can find it here https://www.inclusive-church.org/llf-open-letter/

Accommodation Required

One of the new staff at Youth For Christ is looking for an affordable room to rent preferably within a Christian household. His budget for a room is £500 per month. He works three days a week for Youth for Christ as an Outreach Lead and is a farm arable for the other two days. Please contact Christopher Lynch on 07311404051 if you can help.



The **Tunbridge Wells Deanery Synod** would like to invite members of all churches to come and hear from the **Bible Society** about their report on the **Quiet Revival in Gen Z.**

This meeting is on Wednesday 12th November at 7.30pm at Christ Church TW.

If you would like to go along to this, please register here http://bit.ly/4hnEDVJ

Mary and Kevin are our Deanery Synod reps, so please do ask them more about this if you are interested in going along.

Please do let me know if you need any help or support with anything at the moment. I hope you have a lovely weekend and we see you on Sunday at one of our services.